

Shortcuts





Shortcuts

We can speed up our command-line experience by taking advantage of the many built-in shortcuts.

These shortcuts are designed so that your hands never have to leave your keyboard "home base"

They take a little bit of practice to get comfortable with, but it's worth the effort!





Clearing

Use **ctrl-l** to clear the entire screen





Line Jumping

Use **ctrl-a** to move the cursor to the beginning of the line.

Use **ctrl-e** to move the cursor to the end of the line.





Moving Characters

Use **ctrl-f** to move the cursor forward one character at a time (same as the right arrow)

Use **ctrl-b** to move the cursor backwards one character at a time (same as the left arrow)





Jumping Words

Use **alt-f** to move the cursor forward one word.

Use **alt-b** to move the cursor backwards one word.





Swapping

Use **ctrl-t** to swap the current character under the cursor with the one preceding it. This can be useful to correct typos made by typing too quickly!





Killing The Line

Use **ctrl-k** to kill the text from the current cursor location until the end of the line. →

Use **ctrl-u** to kill the text from the current cursor location to the beginning of the line. ←





Killing A Word

Use **alt-d** to kill the text from the current cursor location through the end of the word →

Use **ctrl-w** or **alt-delete** to kill the text from the current cursor through the beginning of the word ←

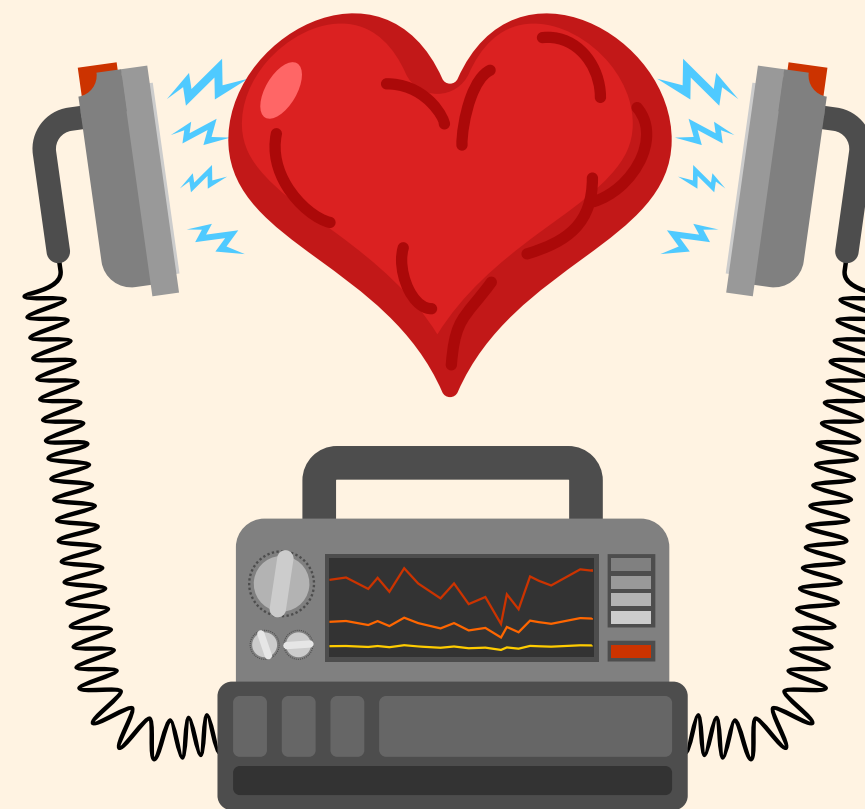




Reviving Text (Yanking)

When we kill text using commands like `ctrl-k`, `ctrl-u`, `alt-d`, and `alt-backspace`, the "killed" text is stored in a memory in an area known as the "kill-ring"

We retrieve the most recently killed text using **`ctrl-y`**.





History

Bash keeps a record the command we have previously entered. We can see the actual file at `~/.bash_history`.

You can scroll through the history one command at a time using the up and down arrows.

We can also use the **history** command to view the entire history, though it's generally easier to manage if we pipe the output to `less`.



```
> history
```



```
> history | less
```

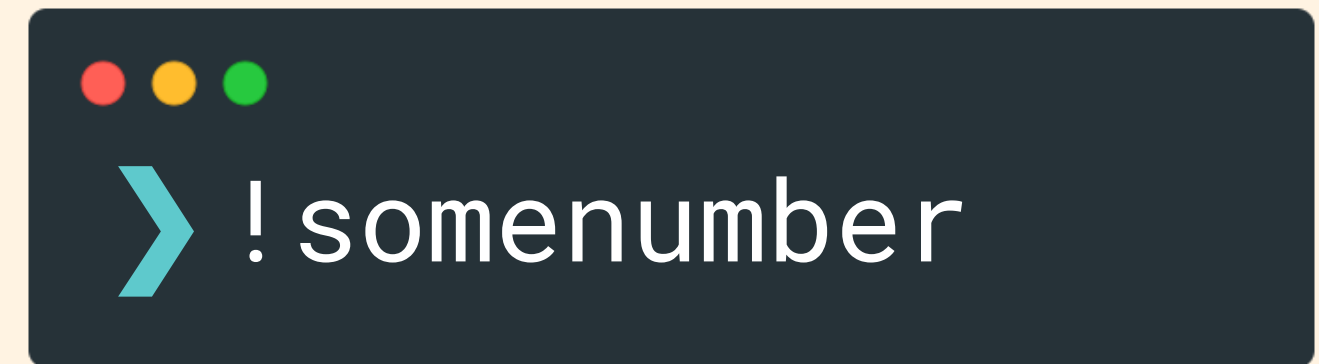




History Expansion

We can easily re-run an earlier command if we have its line number from the history.

For example, to run the 73rd command in the history, we could run **!73**

A dark-themed terminal window with three colored window control buttons (red, yellow, green) in the top-left corner. A light blue prompt character is followed by the text '! somenumber' in white.

```
> !somenumber
```

A dark-themed terminal window with three colored window control buttons (red, yellow, green) in the top-left corner. A light blue prompt character is followed by the text '!73' in white.

```
> !73
```





Searching History

Often it's easiest to find an earlier command by searching using a small portion of the command that you remember.

Type **ctrl-r** to enter "reverse-i-search". As you start typing, bash will search the history and show you the best match.

Hit ctrl-r to cycle through potential matches.

